WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A closure for use in combination with a flexible container for a pourable viscous fluid, the container having a dispensing opening for pouring the fluid from the container and the closure being secured to the periphery of the dispensing opening so as to cover the opening, characterized in that:

said closure comprises a membrane having a primary vent orifice in the region over said dispensing opening and a plurality of at least three part lines through said membrane, said primary vent orifice being sized to permit said membrane to breathe;

said part lines having proximal ends spaced about, and terminating in, said primary vent orifice, and said part lines extending outward from said vent orifice substantially to said periphery;

each said part line being interrupted by a small connecting element extending thereacross proximate to said primary vent orifice; and

wherein said primary vent orifice and said connecting elements have sufficiently small size, and said connecting elements are positioned sufficiently close to said primary vent orifice, that said membrane will contain said viscous fluid within said container when said container is brought into inverted position for pouring, yet said connecting elements will break away and said membrane will separate along said part lines when said flexible container is squeezed, thereby enabling said viscous fluid to flow through said dispensing opening.

2. The closure of claim 1 wherein the proximal ends of said part lines are arranged generally uniformly about said vent orifice.

3. The closure of claim 2 wherein said connecting elements are equally spaced from said vent orifice.

4. The closure of claim 1 comprising at least seven part lines defining at least seven approximately equal sections of said membrane.

5. The closure of claim 1 wherein the dispensing opening is generally circular, said vent orifice is disposed proximate the center of said generally circular opening, and said part lines are generally linear and extend radially outward from said primary vent orifice.

6. The closure of claim 5 wherein said connecting elements form a generally circular pattern about said vent orifice.

7. The closure of claim 1 further comprising a plurality of auxiliary vent orifices in said membrane.

8. The closure of claim 7 wherein at least some of said auxiliary vent orifices are disposed at at least some of said part lines.

9. The closure of claim 8 wherein an auxiliary vent orifice is disposed at each part line.

10. The closure of claim 1, further comprising a plurality of part line extensions extending along portions of said periphery and connecting to at least some of said part lines.

11. A closure for use in combination with a flexible container for a pourable viscous fluid, the container having a dispensing opening for pouring the fluid from the container and the closure being secured to the periphery of the dispensing opening so as to cover the opening, characterized in that:

said closure comprises a membrane having a primary vent orifice disposed in a generally central region over said dispensing opening and at least seven

part lines through said membrane, said primary vent orifice being sized to permit said membrane to breathe;

said part lines having proximal ends spaced about, and terminating in, said primary vent orifice, said proximal ends being spaced generally uniformly about said primary vent orifice and said part lines extending generally radially outward from said vent orifice substantially to said periphery;

each said part line being interrupted by a small connecting element extending thereacross proximate to said primary vent orifice; and

wherein said primary vent orifice and said connecting elements have sufficiently small size, and said connecting elements are positioned sufficiently close to said primary vent orifice, that said membrane will contain said viscous fluid within said container when said container is brought into inverted position for pouring, yet said connecting elements will break away and said membrane will separate along said part lines when said flexible container is squeezed, thereby enabling said viscous fluid to flow through said dispensing opening.